

Fred Nesler wrote, "Progress Rail...has over 100 employees who will benefit from this project, and expects to hire approximately 40 new employees from the local area for this project." Nesler continues, "Approving this waiver is in the public interest and will not take U.S. jobs overseas; it will create jobs in the U.S." Fred, if MotivePower is forced to lay off 200 employees and Progress Rail only hires 40 new employees, how is that "creating jobs in the U.S.?" By my count that is a net loss of 160 jobs. Also, what do you tell the engineers who lose their job to a company in Spain? You most certainly can't tell them, "this...will not take U.S. jobs overseas." The U.S. stands to lose much engineering talent to a foreign company. In the end our tax dollars will go to promoting a foreign company in their efforts to develop technology in the commuter rail industry. Don't you think we should spend our tax money developing this technology domestically so that we can stay competitive?

Fred says, "Those who ask you to reject the waiver are merely asking for you to favor jobs in another state over jobs in Kentucky." So, Fred, you would steal off of Idaho's plate in order to feed Kentucky's hungry? You are making the same statement you accuse opponents of making. The only difference between the opponents and yourself is that the opponents will admit to what you accuse them of – you hide behind your hypocrisy. Employees of MotivePower are currently employed so why would you force them to sacrifice their jobs for your constituents? Are you going to be willing to call every person at MotivePower that loses their job, and tell them that your citizens were more important and that is why you supported this waiver request? Don't get me wrong, everyone who is currently employed feels for the unemployed workers in America, but right now you probably won't find too many people who are going to be willing to just give up their job for someone else.

Fred, the bottom line is that your potential gains are far outweighed by the potential losses for the Boise area and the nation as a whole in regards to the commuter rail industry. It is not the FTA's nor the United States' responsibility to bend rules made to protect U.S. jobs in order to assist a foreign company in being competitive in the U.S. You are viewing this issue through the rose colored glasses that Vossloh is giving out. Public interest just does not apply to this request. You may gain 40 new jobs, but even more jobs will be lost – including engineering jobs to an overseas firm – all the while Vossloh rakes in the money our citizens are paying in taxes. That is Vossloh's private interest that is benefiting, not the U.S. public interest. I admire your desire to support your state and your district, but I urge you to reconsider your stance on this issue and join the opponents of this waiver request. Together let's encourage the FTA to deny the Buy America waiver request by MBTA on behalf of Vossloh.

Respectfully,

Karsten Sathre